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K-12, School Aid & Education Appropriations Subcommittee to Discuss Alternatives to Pro-Rata Reductions

Jelinek will take up alternative bills in tomorrow's subcommittee meeting

LANSING- Chair of the Senate K-12, School Aid & Education Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks, will take up two alternative bills to Governor Granholm's pro-rata reduction to Michigan schools in tomorrow's subcommittee meeting.

"These bills will save Michigan schools more money, compared to the Governor's pro-rata cuts," Jelinek stated. "Senate Bill 192 will keep the Intermediate School Districts at a 3.87% pro-rata. Both bills will help maintain Proposal A by not widening the gap between districts. Our schools and children will not take as large of a hit in funding if either of these measures passes."

Senate Bill 183, sponsored by Senator Alan Cropsey, R- DeWitt, and Senate Bill 192, sponsored by Jelinek, both look at other ways to save money during the budget crisis without hurting schools as much as they would with the pro-rata cut.

SB 183 would enact a .9443% pro-rata reduction from each district's combined state and local revenue. Whereas, SB 192 would produce a \$69 cut straight across the board from foundation branches across the state. This would be a smaller cut than SB 183 because it would not include ISD's.

The K-12, School Aid & Education subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, 2003 from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM in room 810 of the Farnum Building in Lansing. The Farnum Building is located across from the State Capitol Building on the corner of Allegan and Capitol.